

WHAT IS CLAIMED IS:

1. A print driver executable on a user's personal computer responsive to a selection of a print option from any application program, the print driver comprising:

computer-executable code configured to receive output from an application program; and

computer-executable code configured to generate print output from the application program output, the print output conforming to a standardized markup language.

2. A print driver according to Claim 1, wherein the standardized markup language is a scalable vector graphics (SVG) language.

3. A print driver according to Claim 1, wherein the application program output is in the form of Graphic Device Interface (GDI) commands.

4. A print driver according to Claim 1, wherein the standardized markup language permits a hierarchy of elements, wherein the computer-executable code configured to generate print output further comprises:

computer-executable code configured to track a state change associated with a hierarchical level defined in the application program output and determine when to include the state change in the print output.

5. A print driver according to Claim 1, wherein the computer-executable code configured to generate print output further comprises:

computer-executable code configured to
5 cache at least one path element in the application program output and generate a corresponding path element in the print output when a paint path element is encountered in the application program output.

6. A print driver according to Claim 1, wherein the computer-executable code configured to generate print output further comprises:

computer-executable code configured to
15 convert absolute coordinates to physical lengths using a width and height viewbox designation in the print output.

7. A print driver according to Claim 1, wherein the computer-executable code configured to generate print output further comprises:

computer-executable code configured to
20 embed image data within an element definition of the print output.

8. A printer comprising:

computer-executable code configured to
receive print output conforming to a standardized markup language; and

30 computer-executable code configured to produce a print image using the print output.

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9. A printer according to Claim 8, wherein the standardized markup language is a scalable vector graphics (SVG) language.

5 10. A method executable by a print driver executing on a user's personal computer and responsive to a selection of a print option from any application program, the print driver comprising:

10 a receiving step to receive output from an application program; and

a generating step to generate print output from the application program output, the print output conforming to a standardized markup language.

15 11. A method according to Claim 10, wherein the standardized markup language is a scalable vector graphics (SVG) language.

20 12. A method according to Claim 10, wherein the application program output is in the form of Graphic Device Interface (GDI) commands.

25 13. A method according to Claim 10, wherein the standardized markup language permits a hierarchy of elements, wherein generating print output further comprises:

30 tracking a state change associated with a hierarchical level defined in the application program output and determine when to include the state change in the print output.

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14. A method according to Claim 10,
wherein generating print output further comprises:

storing at least one path element in the
application program output and generating a
5 corresponding path element in the print output when
a paint path element is encountered in the
application program output.

15. A method according to Claim 10,
10 wherein generating print output further comprises:

converting absolute coordinates to
physical lengths using a width and height viewbox
designation in the print output.

16. A method according to Claim 10,
15 wherein generating print output further comprises:
embedding image data within an element
definition of the print output.

17. A method executable by a printer
20 comprising:
receiving print output conforming to a
standardized markup language; and
producing a print image using the print
25 output.

18. A method according to Claim 17,
wherein the standardized markup language is a
scalable vector graphics (SVG) language.

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23. A computer-readable memory medium
5 according to Claim 19, wherein the generating step
to generate print output further comprises:
a storing step to store at least one path
element in the application program output and
generating a corresponding path element in the print
10 output when a paint path element is encountered in
the application program output.

a converting step to convert absolute coordinates to physical lengths using a width and height viewBox designation in the print output.

an embedding step to embed image data
within an element definition of the print output.

30 a receiving step to receive print output
conforming to a standardized markup language; and

a producing step to produce a print image
using the print output.

- 5 27. A computer-readable memory medium
according to Claim 26, wherein the standardized
markup language is a scalable vector graphics (SVG)
language.

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